

Centerpulse Orthopedics Ltd.

**Claims**

- 5     1.     An apparatus for implant removal comprising an anchoring element  
         (11) which can be connected to the implant and comprising a cou-  
         pling member (13) which is fastened to the anchoring element (11)  
         and has a length such that a handling section (15) of the coupling  
10       member (13) can be placed at a position in the patient's body dis-  
         posed remotely from the anchoring element (11) connected to the  
         implant.
2.     An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the  
         anchoring element (11) can be screwed to the implant.
- 15       3.     An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the  
         anchoring element (11) is a terminal element for the protection of a  
         fastening section, in particular of a thread section, of the implant  
         usable for the insertion of the implant.
- 20       4.     An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the  
         anchoring element (11) is a plug screw and has an externally  
         threaded section (17) which can be screwed to the internally  
         threaded section formed at the implant.
- 25       5.     An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the  
         coupling member (13) has an elongate shape.

6. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is flexible.
7. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is a cable.
8. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is made up of a plurality of individual load carriers.
9. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is a wire.
10. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is manufactured from a biocompatible material.
11. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is made of a suture material.
12. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is manufactured from titanium or steel.
13. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the coupling member (13) is fastened at its one end to the anchoring element (11) and has the handling section (15) at its other end.

14. An apparatus in accordance with claim 13, characterised in that the handling section (15) is formed as a loop, a sling or an eye of the coupling member (13).
- 5 15. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the length of the coupling member (13) is dimensioned such that the handling section (15) can be placed directly under the skin of the patient.
- 10 16. An apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that it is made for the removal of medullary nails.
- 15 17. An operating system having a plurality of implants, in particular of medullary nails, and having a plurality of implant removal apparatuses in accordance with claim 1 whose anchoring element can in each case be connected to at least one of the implants.

---.